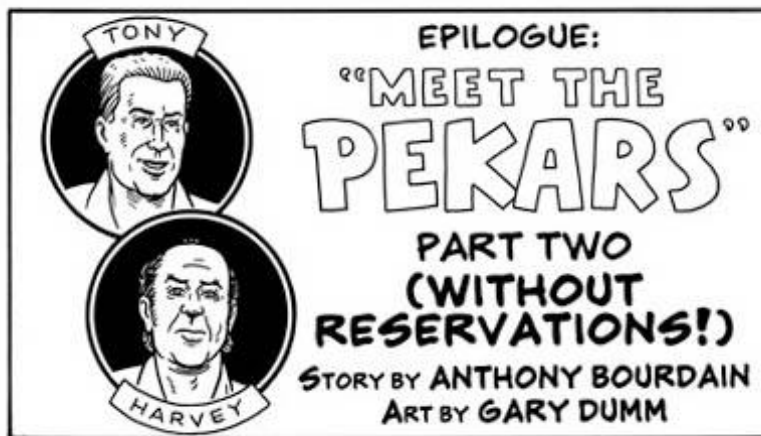


**Harvey Pekar: Conversations**  
**Bibliography of Source Interviews**  
**for APA-I #118 (makeup) and 119**  
**by Michael Rhode**  
**September 1997**

I'm sorry I missed the last issue - the deadline slipped right by me. As you can see by this, I have been working on a book project. I am editing a collection of interviews, *Harvey Pekar: Conversations*, which will be published in Fall 2008 by the University Press of Mississippi. Harvey has agreed to cooperate in the project. I am editing this volume because I conducted two panel interviews with Harvey Pekar at the 2005 Small Press Expo, transcribed and published them in the *International Journal of Comic Art*, and then offered the final version to the Press' editor, Tom Inge for their series. Tom suggested I do the volume myself as they did not have it scheduled, and the contract finally arrived this summer. Information on the series can be seen at [http://www.upress.state.ms.us/books\\_in\\_print/?series\\_id=10](http://www.upress.state.ms.us/books_in_print/?series_id=10). The Press has tentatively planned for a volume of approximately 250 printed pages, selling for about \$50.00 (cloth) and \$20.00 (paper), with a total print run of approximately 1,800 copies. The University Press of Mississippi is a nonprofit publisher serving chiefly a scholarly market, but you can find the books fairly easy. This summer volumes on Spiegelman and Stan Lee appeared.

To do one of these, you have to put together a list of interviews, and then write to the owner of the interview requesting permission to reprint it. Some people never answer; others ask for ridiculous prices like Time.com's cost of \$900. Most people have been very nice and helpful though. I would guess that only about a third of the sources listed here will be reprinted and I'm not sure if citations for the others will appear in the book, so this research should still useful to any of you who are really, really interested in Harvey Pekar.



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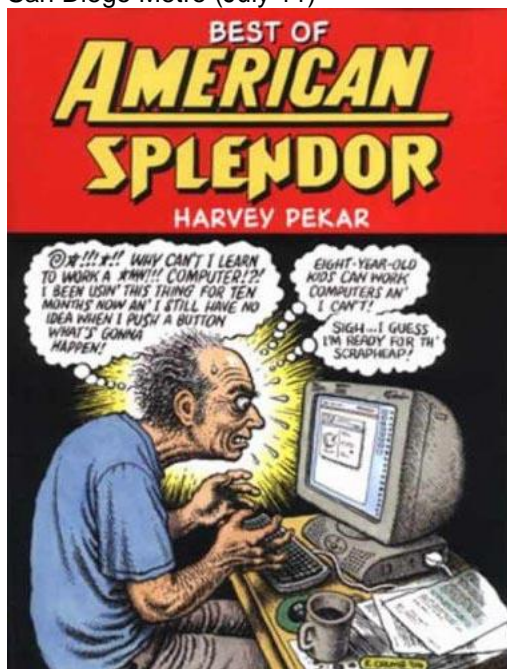
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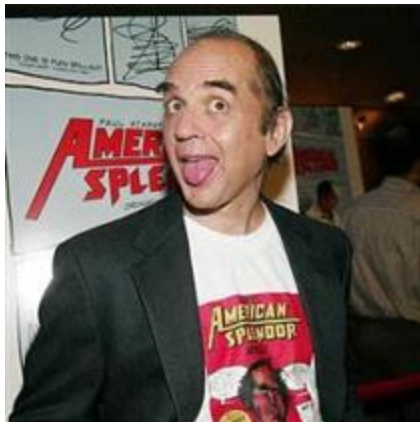
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*Underground comic book writer Harvey Pekar and his wife Joyce Brabner. In 1976 Pekar published the first in a series of comic books about his mundane life as a veterans hospital clerk and record collector in Cleveland. It was called American Splendor, and he has continued to publish them since. In 1987 one of them earned him an American Book Award. Now he is the subject of the new film American Splendor which won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival.*

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*Harvey Pekar's been called a schlep, a crank, and eternal pessimist. He is the creator of the autobiographical comic series "American Splendor," about his 30 years as a file clerk at a V.A. hospital.*

*In 2003, Pekar's life became the subject of the movie "American Splendor," which won the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival and the International Critics' Prize at Cannes.*

*Hear a conversation with Harvey Pekar about his own American life.*

*Guests: Harvey Pekar is creator of the autobiographical comic "American Splendor." The 2003 movie "American Splendor" is based on his life. He has two new books, "American Splendor Our Movie Year" and "Best of American Splendor."*

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*Pekar began writing comic book stories in 1972, encouraged by his friend Robert Crumb, a comic book author and artist who has illustrated many of Pekar's pieces. The Quitter features art by Dean Haspiel.*

*The first collection of Pekar's work was American Splendor, a presentation of stories that energize everyday -- even boring -- events of Pekar's life in Cleveland with caustic humor. A film of the same title, released in 2003, helped Pekar emerge from obscurity when it became a surprise hit and won several awards.*

*Pekar's other book-length story, Our Cancer Year, was written in collaboration with his wife, Joyce Brabner. The book's events begin in 1990, when the couple learned that Pekar had lymphoma. From there, Pekar and Brabner weave stories of treating cancer with commentaries on the 1991 Persian Gulf War and U.S. policy in the Middle East.*

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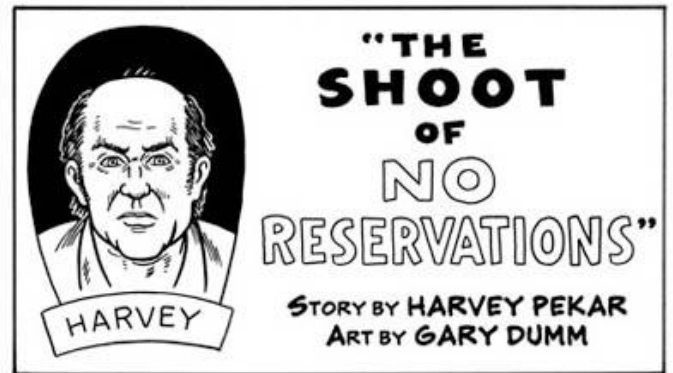
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